

JOHN P. MURTHA  
12TH DISTRICT, PENNSYLVANIA

OFFICE OF THE  
SECRETARY OF DEFENSE

2002 MAR 13 AM 7:19

COMMITTEE:  
APPROPRIATIONS

**Congress of the United States**  
**House of Representatives**

JOHN P. MURTHA  
12TH DISTRICT, PENNSYLVANIA

COMMITTEE:  
APPROPRIATIONS

**Congress of the United States**  
**House of Representatives**  
Washington, DC 20515-3812

OFFICE OF THE  
SECRETARY OF DEFENSE

2001 APR -6 AM 10:46

March 30, 2001

Mr. Larry DiRita  
Congressional Liaison Officer  
Assistant Secretary Of Defense for Legislative Affairs  
Office Of the Secretary Of Defense  
The Pentagon  
Washington, D.C. 20301

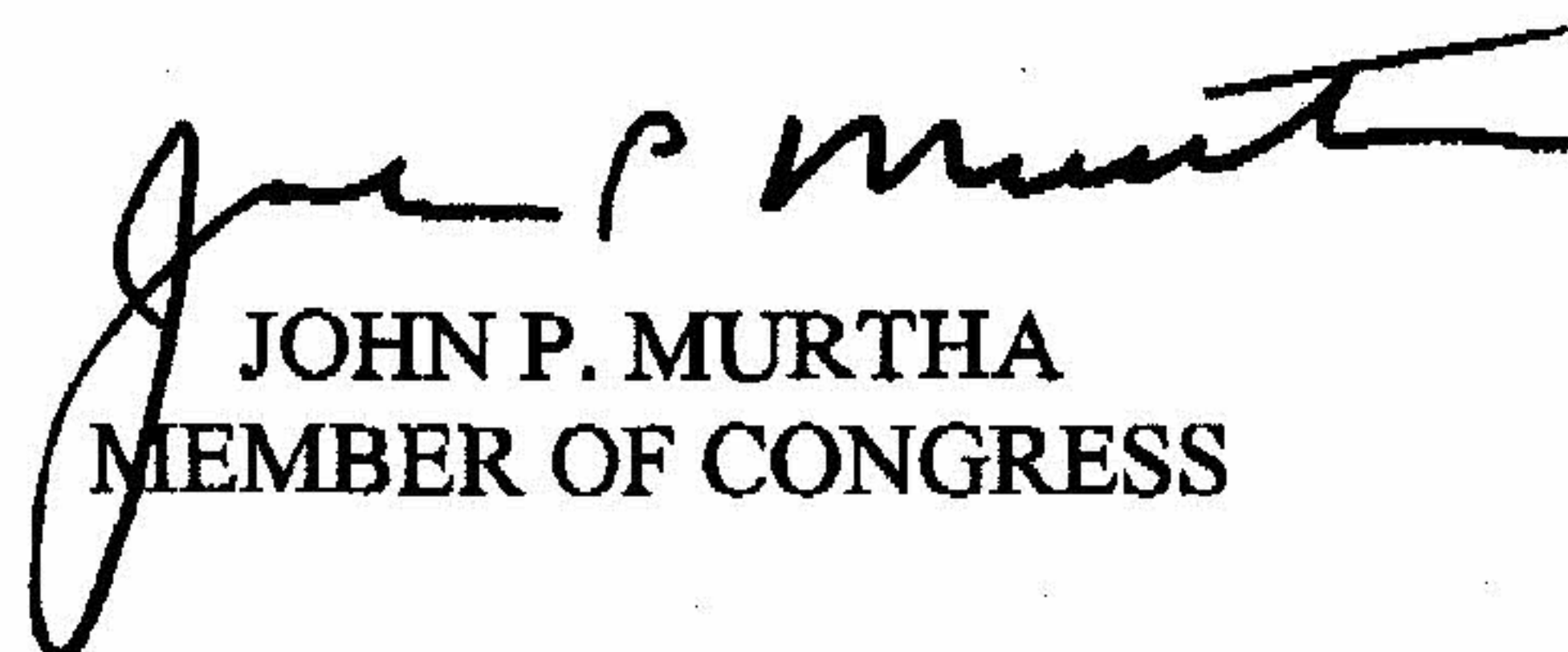
Dear Mr. DiRita:

I have been contacted by (b)(6) who is trying to resolve a matter with the Defense Contract Management Agency regarding a correct interpretation of local travel rates to be paid to employees when performing government business using one's own private vehicle.

Please review the attached communication and send me information on which may base a proper response.

Your attention to this matter and any assistance you might render will be appreciated.

Sincerely,

  
JOHN P. MURTHA  
MEMBER OF CONGRESS


JPM:mv

P.S. Please reply to: The Honorable John P. Murtha  
Post Office Box 780  
Johnstown, Pennsylvania 15907  
814 536-4702 or 535-2642

I believe this is an important and worthwhile project. Given the likely increase in the coming years of asymmetric warfare, the United States must seek out new and innovative ways to prevent and respond to terrorism and the use of weapons of mass destruction against our citizens.

Thank you in advance for your consideration of this worthwhile and innovative proposal.

Sincerely,

  
JOHN P. MURTHA  
MEMBER OF CONGRESS

JPM cs



**Congress of the United States**  
Washington, DC 20515

2002 MAR 20 PM 3:50

March 18, 2002

Secretary Donald H. Rumsfeld  
Office of the Secretary of Defense  
1000 Defense Pentagon  
Washington, DC 20301-1000

Dear Mr. Secretary:

We would like to take this opportunity to express our wholehearted and enthusiastic support for the candidacy of Major General William B. Lynch, Adjutant General and Commander of the Pennsylvania National Guard, for the position of Chief of the National Guard Bureau.

As head of the Department of Military and Veterans Affairs in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, a cabinet level position, General Lynch leads the largest contingent of National Guard in the United States, including 20,000 soldiers and airmen. In his capacity as Director of Veterans Affairs, General Lynch runs Pennsylvania's six veterans' homes and a residential school for veterans' children and serves the needs of the 1.3 million veterans in Pennsylvania.

Through his principled leadership as Adjutant General of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, and as a testament to his commitment to the men and women under his command, General Lynch has established the highest level of manning, retention, and readiness in the history of the Pennsylvania National Guard.

By any standard, General Lynch is profoundly well prepared for the position of Chief of the National Guard Bureau. General Lynch is a graduate of Brown University, holds a law degree and is a graduate of the prestigious National War College. He is a combat-tested war veteran with more than 5,000 flight hours and 100 missions over North Vietnam. General Lynch has served in a variety of leadership positions throughout his accomplished career, including a tour as National Guard Bureau Chief of the Operations Division during Operations Desert Shield and Desert Storm.

General Lynch is a distinguished and highly decorated officer. He has received several "Top Gun" awards, the Distinguished Service Medal, Air Force Commendation Medal, Presidential Unit Citation and many, many others. He serves as vice president for Air of the National Guard Association of the United States and on the board of the Pennsylvania National Guard Foundation.

In light of the above, we are confident that General Lynch has the character, courage, intellect, experience, and desire to serve at the national level. He has the rare combination of visionary leadership and profound respect of both contemporaries and subordinates, and is a

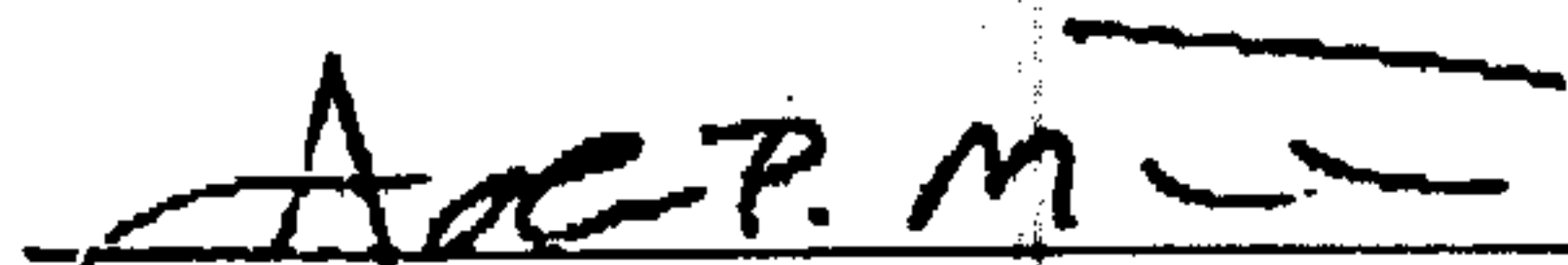
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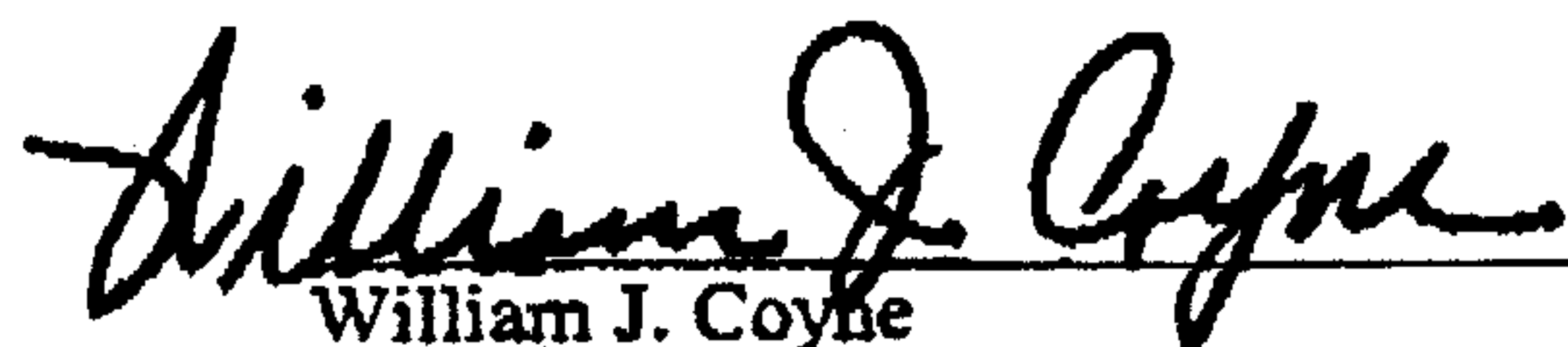
Page 2  
3-18-02

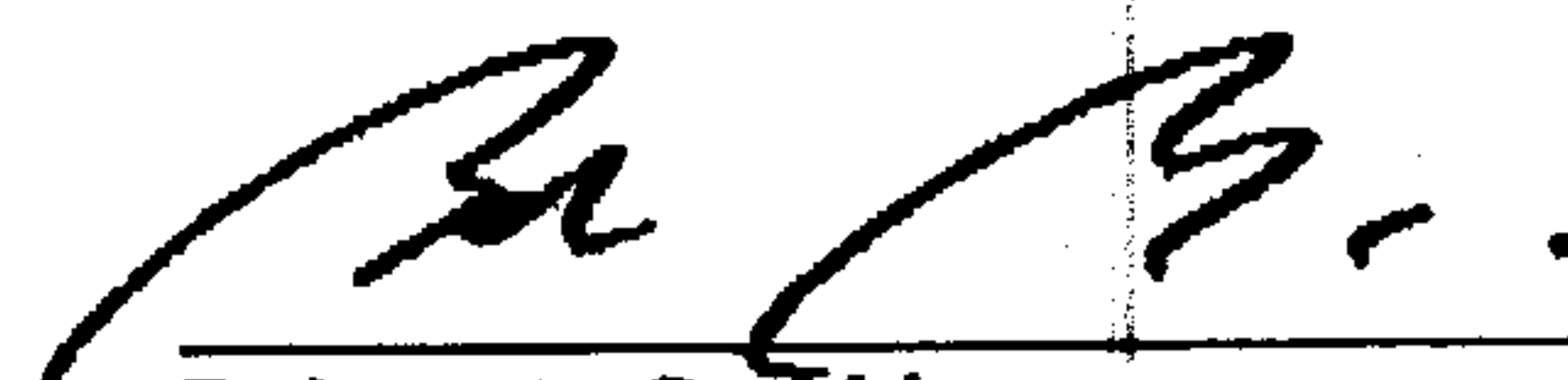
leader who inspires others to follow. General Lynch possesses all of the talents necessary to lead the National Guard into a future that will be filled with profound changes and new challenges.

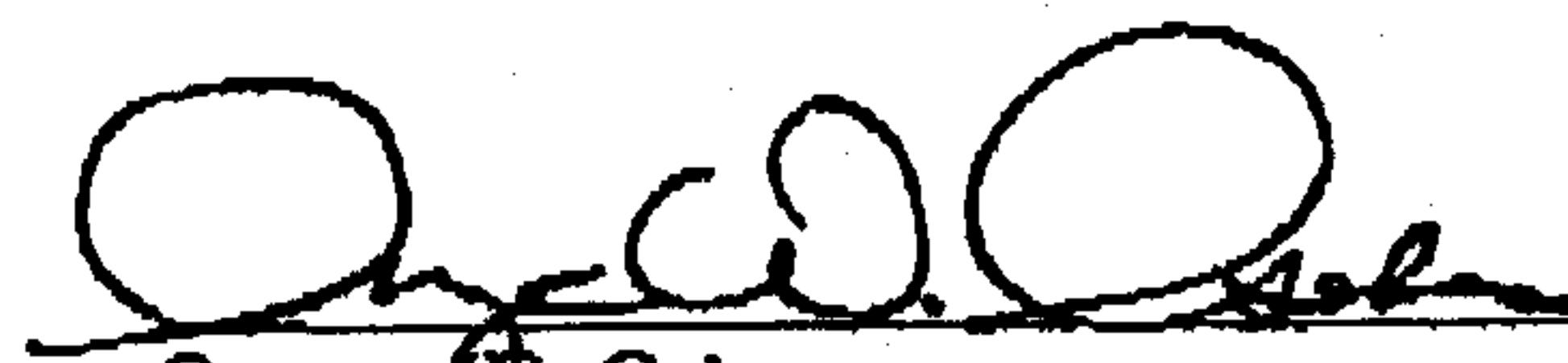
General Lynch has our complete and unconditional support for selection as Chief of the National Guard Bureau. We ask that you give your personal and active consideration to Major General William B. Lynch as Chief of the National Guard Bureau.

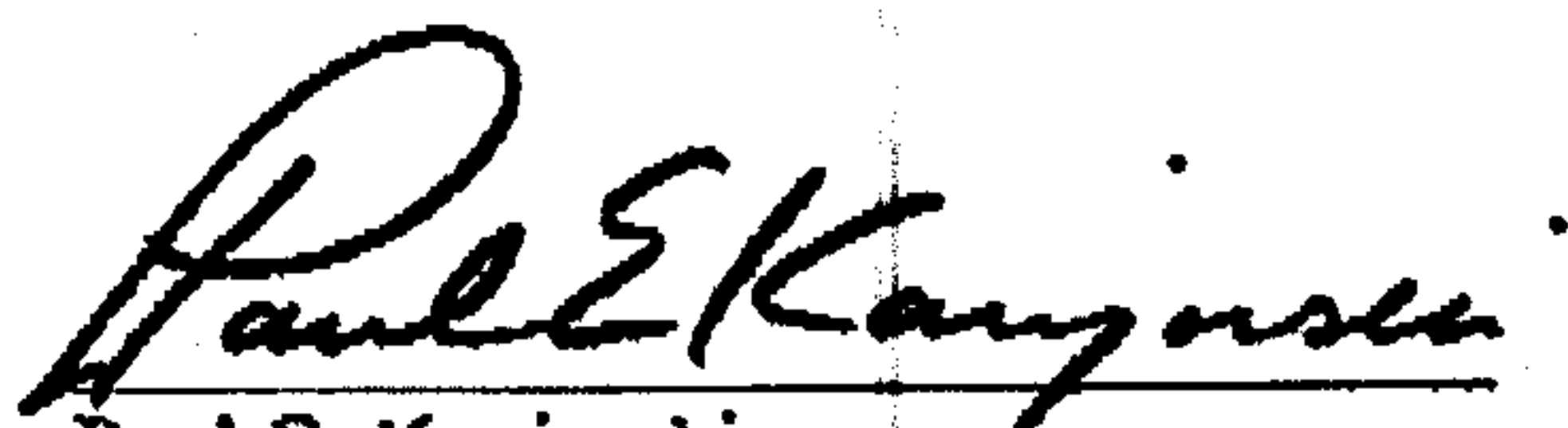
Sincerely,


  
John P. Murtha  
Member of Congress

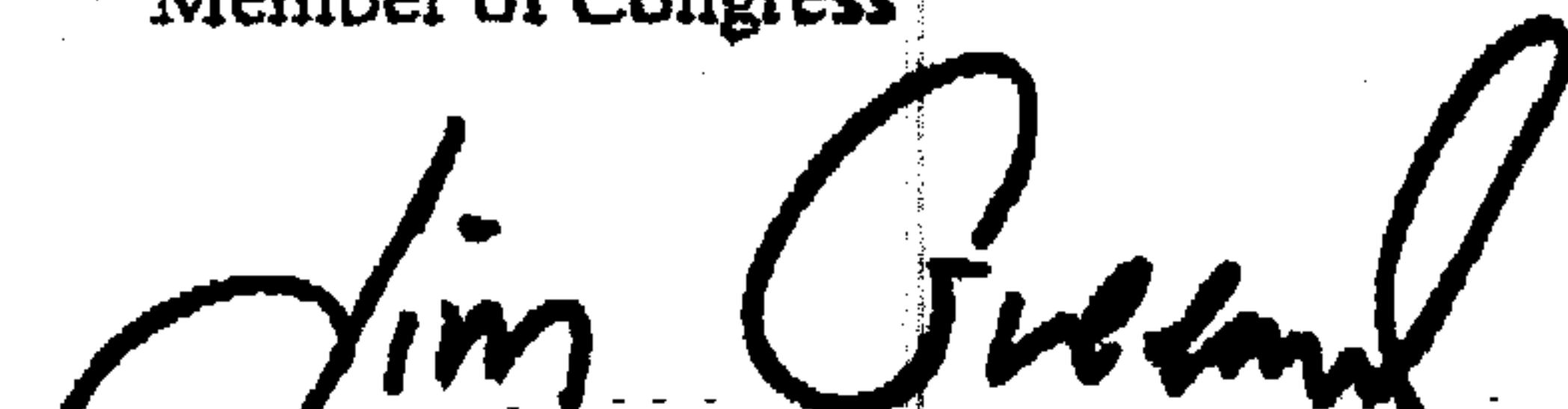
  
William J. Coyne  
Member of Congress


  
Robert A. Borski  
Member of Congress


  
George W. Gekas  
Member of Congress

  
Paul E. Kanjorski  
Member of Congress

  
Curt Weldon  
Member of Congress

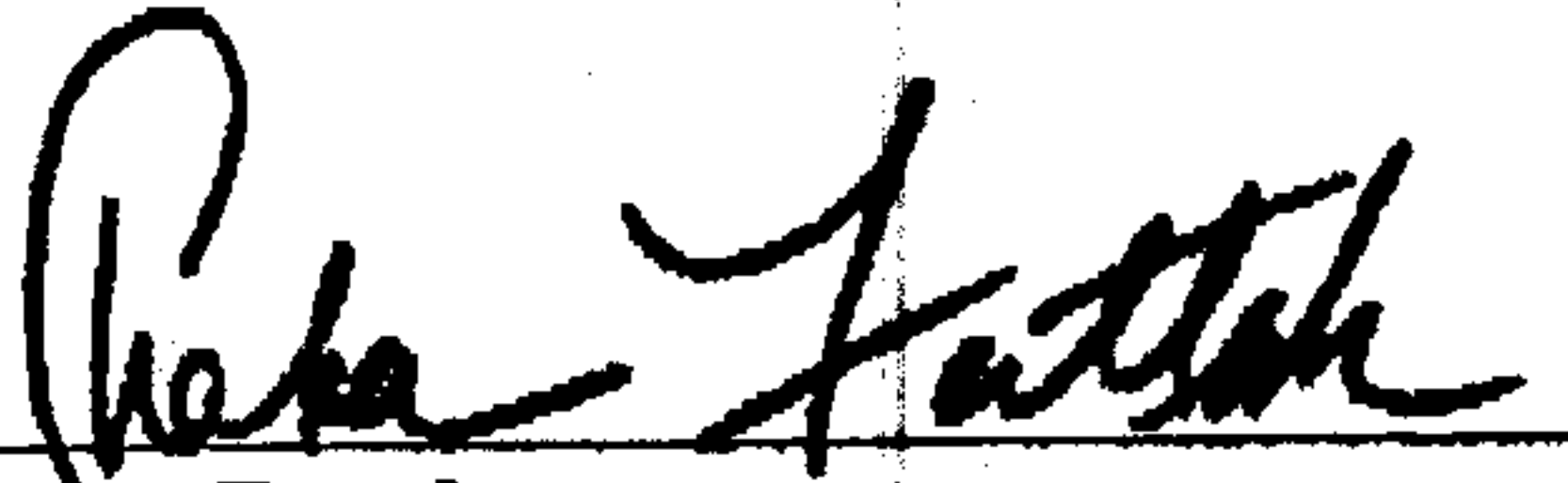
  
James C. Greenwood  
Member of Congress

  
Tim Holden  
Member of Congress

  
Michael F. Doyle  
Member of Congress

  
Phil English  
Member of Congress

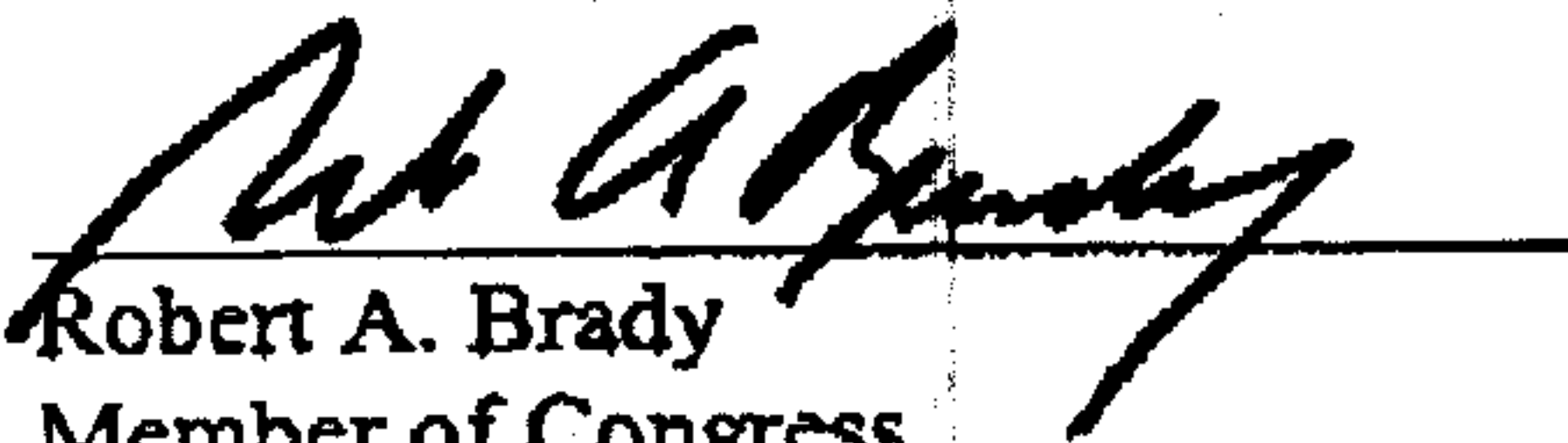
Page 3  
3-18-02



Chaka Fattah  
Member of Congress



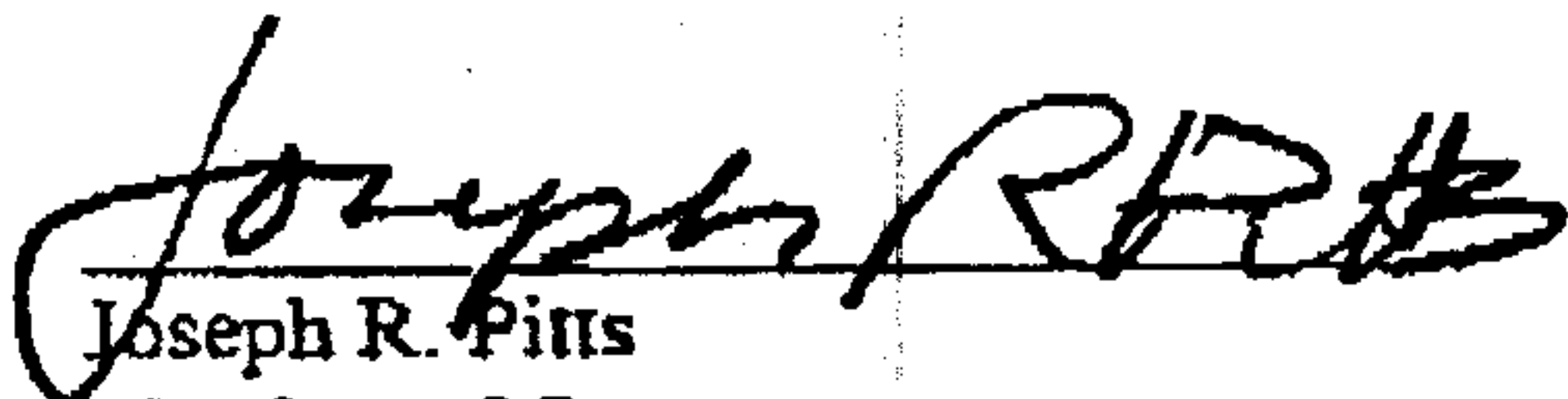
Frank Mascara  
Member of Congress




Robert A. Brady  
Member of Congress



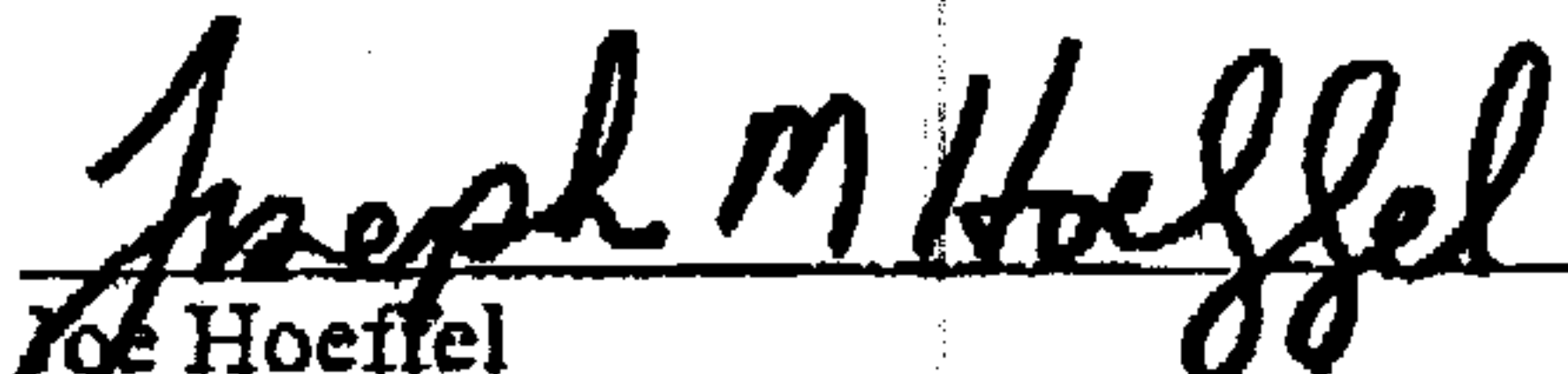
John E. Peterson  
Member of Congress



Joseph R. Pitts  
Member of Congress



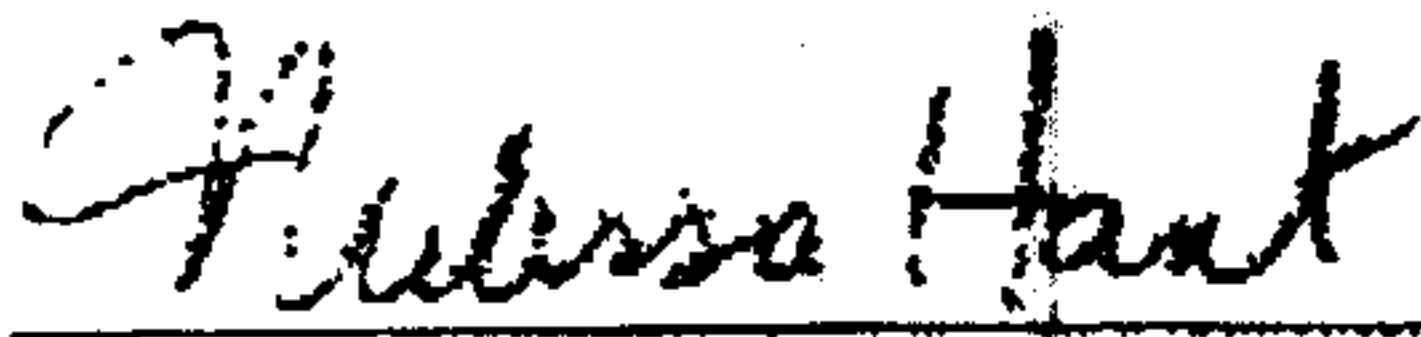
Don Sherwood  
Member of Congress



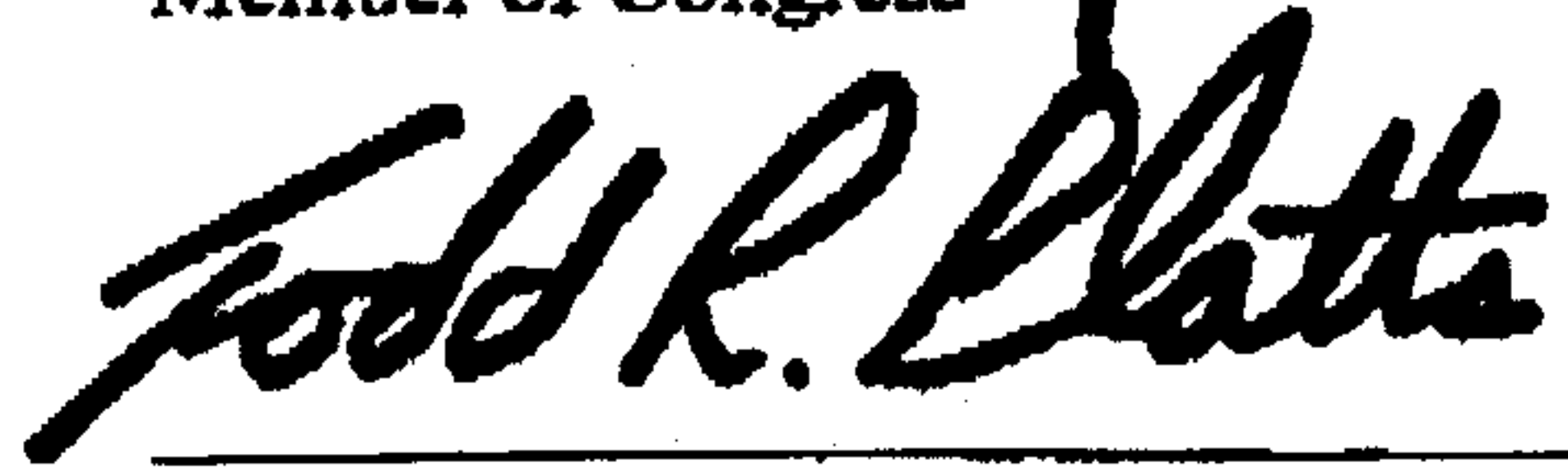
Joe Hoeffel  
Member of Congress



Patrick J. Toomey  
Member of Congress



Melissa A. Hart  
Member of Congress



Todd Russell Platts  
Member of Congress



Bill Shuster  
Member of Congress

**Congress of the United States**

**House of Representatives**

**Washington, DC 20515-3812**

**April 25, 2002**

OFFICE OF THE  
SECRETARY OF DEFENSE

2002 APR 25 PM 1:54

The Honorable Donald Rumsfeld  
Secretary of Defense  
Washington, D.C. 20301-1000

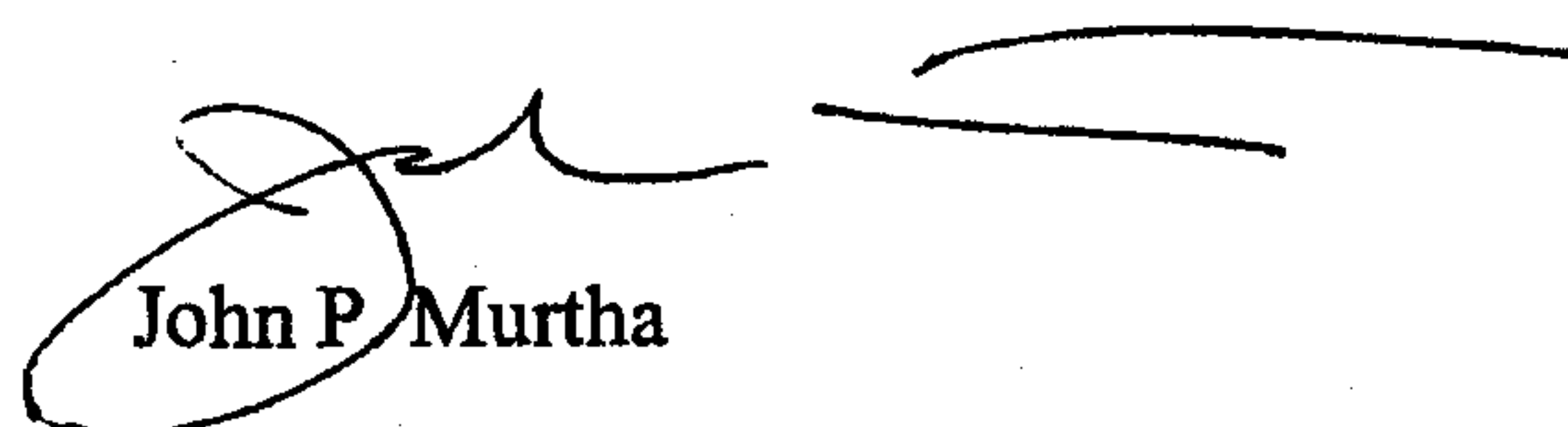
Dear Mr. Secretary:

I was pleased to have successfully sponsored Section 8151 of the FY 2002 Defense Appropriations Act giving you the ability to authorize the use of Title 38 pay and benefits levels for Department of Defense nurses and other specified medical occupations.

This new compensation authority was meant to address the continuing problem the Department has experienced in attracting and retaining fully qualified civilian nurses and other key medical personnel. Until now, your military medical commands have been required to operate under the out-dated pay structures specified by Title 5, which has put them at a significant competitive disadvantage. Shifting to Title 38 authorities should result in saving the taxpayers millions of dollars by greatly reducing the need to fill persistent personnel shortages with very expensive contract nurses and will also alleviate high nurse turnover rates.

I would appreciate receiving a report from your staff on the status of implementing Section 8151. I would also request a breakdown comparing old and new pay structures and other key personnel policy changes that will result from this change in law, the number of personnel that are expected to be employed under the new Title 38 authority by service and by occupation for each of the next three fiscal years, and the expected cost savings by service from reduced dependence on contract specialists for this same time period.

Sincerely,



John P. Murtha

U07329 /02



Congress of the United States

House of Representatives

Washington, DC 20515-3812

OFFICE OF THE  
CLERK OF THE HOUSE  
2002 AUG 26 PM 2:29

July 23, 2002

Director  
Department Of Defense  
Military Traffic Management Command  
1400 Defense Pentagon  
Washington, D.C. 20301

Dear Sir:

I am writing on behalf of Donna and William Strickler, from W.H. Strickler Trucking Company.

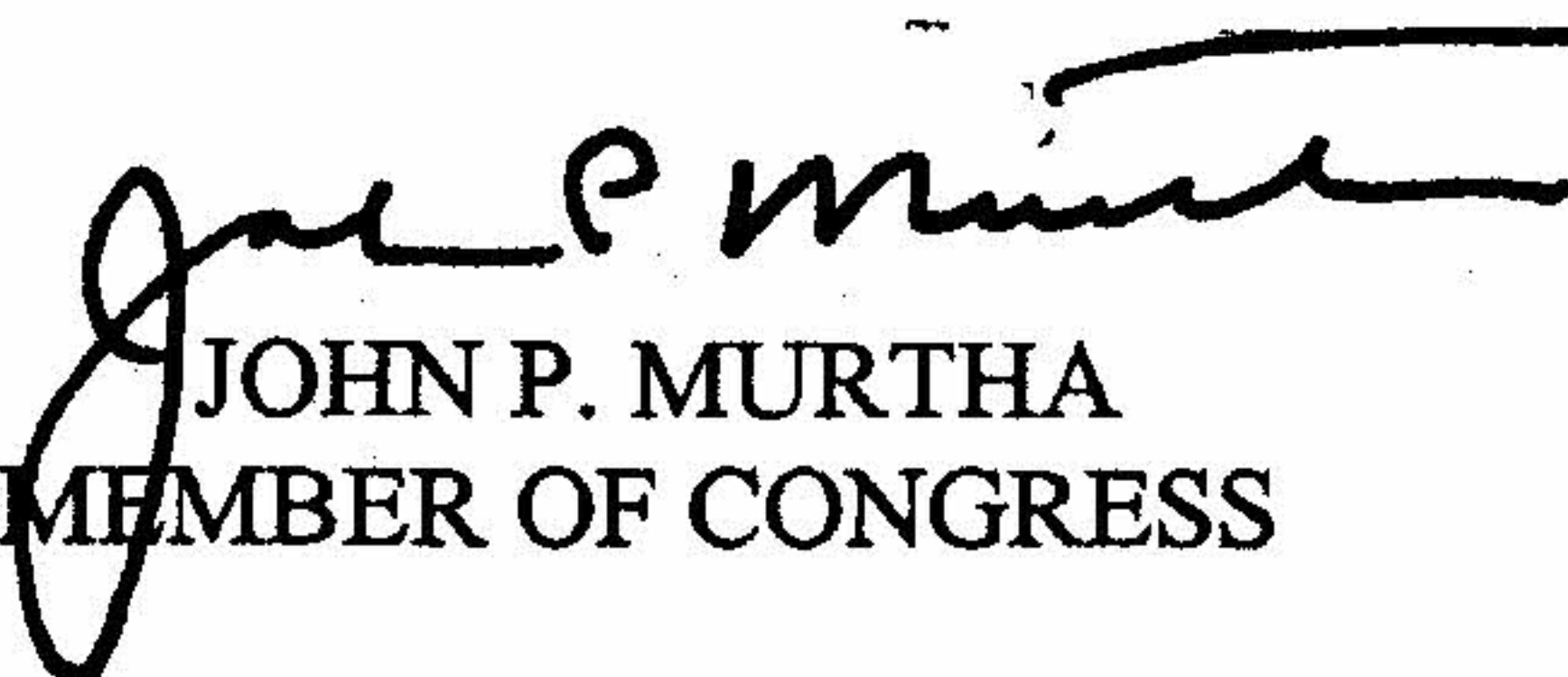
They applied to the Department of Defense several months ago and advised they were interested in hauling in one of DODs "Guaranteed Traffic Freight lanes" only.

They were given Approved Carried status on May 29, 2002, issued a password and were advised they were ready to go. They have not ben offered even one bid that calls for a 53 foot van. They are a one truck operation and have advised the individuals they talked to they cannot bid on "Spot Bids" and even if they could the only jobs made available to them have called for a flat bed trailer and they do not own a flat bed trailer.

I would greatly appreciate anything you can do to help them.

Your attention to this matter and any assistance you might render will be appreciated.

Sincerely,

  
JOHN P. MURTHA  
MEMBER OF CONGRESS

JPM:mv

P.S. Please reply to: The Honorable John P. Murtha  
Post Office Box 780  
Johnstown, Pennsylvania 15907  
814 535-2642 or 536-4702

U13954 / 02





OFFICE OF THE  
SECRETARY OF DEFENSE

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES 2003 NOV -3 PM 1:30  
WASHINGTON, D. C. 20515

JOHN P. MURTHA

October 23, 2003

The Honorable Donald H. Rumsfeld  
Secretary of Defense,  
United States of America  
1000 Defense Pentagon  
Washington, D.C. 20301-1000

Dear Secretary Rumsfeld,

*I have just read an article in the New York Times describing the Pentagon's plan to spend hundreds of millions of dollars on complex surveillance and counter insurgent devices. While some of this equipment may need to be fielded as soon as possible, I am concerned that not enough attention is being paid to what I call the X-Factor, the spirit of the enemy. Every time an American service member kills an Iraqi, the ordinary Iraqis see us as the enemy and we further enflame the extremists. When we are seen as the enemy, we are not winning the hearts and minds of the Iraqi people. Winning the hearts and minds of the Iraqi people is critical and this cannot be accomplished without the proper training of our troops.*

*When an RPG is fired at our troops and the perpetrator disappears into the crowd, we must rely on the Iraqi people to identify the perpetrator or to provide intelligence that will lead to his/her identification. Our efforts should therefore be primarily concentrated on developing key relationships with the Iraqi people instead of counting on forensic data, computer programs and sophisticated radar to help find homemade bombs and guerilla activity.*

*In my most recent visits to Walter Reed, the troops expressed concern over the lack of training in urban warfare. Many said that they were operating outside of their MOS with little or no training in their newly assigned task. For instance, an infantryman was working primarily military police duties. Another soldier was assigned the task of giving out paychecks to a crowd who was becoming increasingly unruly. He was uncomfortable with the situation and commented, "I just had to show them who was boss."*

*I understand the Army has shortages in critical MOSs in Iraq, and as many as 6300 may be working outside of his/her appropriate MOS. I believe proper training and ensuring our troops are working within their MOS is a necessary step toward winning the hearts and minds of the Iraqi people. We need them on our side.*

Sincerely,

  
JOHN P. MURTHA  
MEMBER OF CONGRESS

U18220 / 03